

passion or assistance under their own sufferings.

STORY III.

The Exaltation of Humility, and the Abasement of Pride.

MASTER William Smith was proud, obstinate, passionate, ill-natured, fretful and whimsical, and in consequence of being a naughty boy, had very few acquaintance or playfellows, for young gentlemen were ashamed of being seen with him, lest they should be thought to resemble him, and even poor children, who were good, excused themselves from playing with him. Besides, he used them very ill, was quite fretful if he did not win at marbles, cards, &c. wanted them to oblige him in every thing,

thing, and yet would never comply with their desires. One day Mr. Allworthy, a gentleman of large fortune, and excellent character, sent messages to all the little boys in the neighbourhood, poor as well as rich, that they should come to his house the next day, and whoever had the best character from his parents, servants, and the neighbours, should receive from him a present of a good collection of entertaining and instructive books, and wear a ribbon with this motto, "this distinguishes goodness."

Master Smith no sooner heard this, than he ran to his mamma (his papa was dead) and told her of Mr. Allworthy's intention, that he thought it would be a great honour to gain these prizes, and that he did not doubt but he should obtain them.

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